

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application.

Claims:

1-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) A compound capable of inhibiting activation of cytotoxic T lymphocytes and/or natural killer cells, comprising an oligopeptide of at least 6 amino acids comprising a contiguous sequence of the HLA-B α_1 domain, wherein said oligopeptide includes the sequence YYW (SEQ ID NO:1) at the amino acid positions corresponding to residues 84 to 86 of said ~~including amino acids 84 to 86, wherein the amino acid residues in said oligopeptide corresponding to HLA-B α_1 domain amino acids 84 to 86 are YYW (SEQ ID NO:1).~~

14. (Currently amended) A compound capable of inhibiting activation of cytotoxic T lymphocytes and/or natural killer cells, comprising an oligopeptide of at least 8 amino acids comprising the triad YYW (SEQ ID NO:1) and comprising a contiguous sequence of the sequence:

aa⁷⁰ aa⁷¹ Q T aa⁷⁴ R aa⁷⁶ aa⁷⁷ L aa⁷⁹ aa⁸⁰ aa⁸¹ aa⁸² aa⁸³ Y Y W aa⁸⁷ aa⁸⁸ aa⁸⁹ aa⁹⁰ aa⁹¹ (SEQ ID NO: 57).

wherein:

aa⁷⁰ is Q, H, S, N or K;

aa⁷¹ is an aliphatic neutral amino acid;

aa⁷⁴ is D, Y or H;

aa⁷⁶ is E or V;

aa⁷⁷ is D, S or N;

aa⁷⁹ is R or G;

aa⁸⁰ is T, I, N or an aromatic amino acid;

aa⁸¹ is an aliphatic non-polar amino acid;

aa⁸² is R, L or an aromatic amino acid;

aa⁸³ is G or R;

aa⁸⁷ is any amino acid;

aa⁸⁸ is an aromatic amino acid or aliphatic amino acid of from 5 to 6 carbon atoms;
aa⁸⁹ is any amino acid;
aa⁹⁰ is any amino acid; and
aa⁹¹ is any amino acid[;]
~~the dimer or at least one amino acid being the D-stereoisomer.~~

15. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 14, wherein said compound is of the formula:

R V/E N/D L R I A/L L R/E Y Y W Q/D S (SEQ ID NO:3)

wherein the backslashes intend that either amino acid may be present at that position.

16. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 15 ~~of at least 10 amino acids~~ which includes the sequence N L R I A L R Y Y W (SEQ ID NO:58).

17. (Previously presented) A compound comprising at least two oligopeptides according to Claim 14 joined at their C terminus to a polylysine.

18. (New) The compound of Claim 14, wherein said compound is a dimer of said oligopeptide.

19. (New) The compound of Claim 14, wherein at least one of said amino acids is the D-stereoisomer.